month per family. Accommodation with free water, electricity and medical facilities are also being provided in Delhi.

The Government of Haryana have issued temporary ration cards to such families to avail of essential commodities at concessional rates and have also provided free educational facilities to the children of such families upto degree level.

Uniform accounting year for Assessees

1086. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Advisory Committee has urged the Central Government to reduce significantly the number of tax incentives and concessions available under various heads and also for the introduction of a uniform accounting year for all assessees and for an enlargement of the scope of tax deduction at source; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Direct Taxes Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 8-9-1987 at New Delhi, *inter-alia*, made the following suggestions in respect of widening of the tax base and simplifying tax laws :

(i) There should be a uniform accounting year for all assessees;

(ii) There should be significant reduction in number of tax incentives and concessions; and

(iii) The area of tax deduction at source should be enlarged.

Donations from Foreign Countries to Different Organisations

1087. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any law or regulations in force to check and control the flow of donations from foreign countries to different organisations in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to channelise the flow of such donation through Governmental agencies only; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) One of the Acts is Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 which regulates *inter alia* the acceptance and utilisation of foreign contribution by certain types of associations.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal to channelise foreign contribution to associations covered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, through Governmental Agencies as it involves practical difficulties.

Evasion of Customs Duty by Indian Express Group of Newspapers

1088. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has filed complaint against the Indian Express Group of newspapers under the Customs Act; and

(b) what is the total amount of evasion of customs duty by the Indian Express Group of newspapers for which the complaint was lodged, with details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has filed three criminal complaints in the Jurisdictional Courts at Madras, New Delhi and Bombay, against the Indian Express Group under the Customs Act, on the following dates at Madras on 16-10-87 alleging evasion of

customs duty to the tune of Rs. 29,00,439.30; at New Delhi on 19-10-87 alleging evasion of customs duty to the tune of Rs. 29,00,439.30; at New Delhi on 19-10-87 alleging evasion of Customs duty to the tune of Rs. 7,72,229.74 at Bombay on 26-10-87 alleging evasion of Duty to the tune of Rs. 75,09,846.77; in respect of 3 separate imports viz .—

(1) 14 units of web offset printing machines imported at Madras;

(2) Photo composing equipment imported at Bombay,

(3) Electronic colour scanner imported at Delhi

Amendments in Minimum Wages Act

1089. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Labour Ministry has proposed an amendment in the Minimum Wages Act enabling the labourers to claim their minimum wages at the block level;

(b) whether Government are aware of the tardy implementation of the Minimum Wages Act in various States in the agricultural sectors; and

(c) what other amendments are being proposed in the Minimum Wages Act to enable the workers to get minimum wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) A number of suggestions have been made for amendment of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to make it more effective and provide expeditious relief to the employees covered under the Act. These include *inter-alia*, reviewing the rates of minimum wages at short intervals unless these have variable component of Dearness Allowance, enhancement in the compensation amount, payment of interest in case of non-payment and short payment of wages, deposit of a part of the claimed amount, restrictions on change in the conditions of service during the pendency of claims proceedings and enhancement of penalties, etc. The proposals for amendment are yet to be finalised. The subject of implementation of minimum wages for the unorganised labour in the scheduled employments including agriculture was discussed at the 36th session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in May, 1987, important conclusions were reached and action was recommended for removing difficulties in enforcement.

Combing Operation in the Golden Temple Complex

1090. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the security forces have been successful in October, 1987 in combing the hideouts in and around the Golden Temple Complex in Amritsar to apprehend the terrorists and militants taking shelter therein and operating therefrom and to unearth arms and ammunition dumps; and

(b) if so, how many terrorists were apprehended indicating the details of noteworthy terrorists arrested/killed during the combing operations and the nature and extent of arms-dumps seized in the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The result of action taken in this regard has been encouraging. One terrorist committed suicide and two were arrested. One pistol and cartridges were recovered from them

Report of RBI on Economy

1091 SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank in a recent report forecast a gloomy picture of the country's economy for the year 1987-88 resulting from among other things shortage of inputs for farming and industry and pleaded for urgent steps for checking price increase; and